

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 JOHANN 01721 051405Z

44

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 IO-13

DHA-02 /080 W

----- 066377

R 051321Z OCT 76

FM AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5162

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

UNCLAS JOHANNESBURG 1721

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SF

SUBJECT: PRP CALLS FOR UNITED OPPOSITION

SUMMARY: THE LEADER OF THE PROGRESSIVE REFORM PARTY, COLIN EGLIN, SPEAKING BEFORE THE FIRST TRANSVAAL PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF THE PRP OCTOBER 1, CALLED THE PRESENT SITUATION IN SOUTH AFRICA SO SERIOUS THAT "ENLIGHTENED OPPOSITION FORCES SHOULD BE EXPANDED INTO A SINGLE UNIT" TO CHALLENGE NATIONALIST POLICIES. MR. EGLIN FURTHER STATED THE PRP WOULD HAVE NO PART IN A CENTRIST PARTY WHICH EQUIVOCATED ON THE ISSUE OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION. END SUMMARY.

1. THE PROGRESSIVE REFORM PARTY, CELEBRATING ITS FIRST TRANSVAAL PROVINCIAL CONGRESS, ANNOUNCED THAT IT WAS PREPARED TO DISCUSS WITH OTHER OPPOSITION FORCES THE FORMATION OF AN "ENLIGHTENED OPPOSITION" TO COUNTER "DISASTROUS" NATIONAL POLICIES.

2. MR. EGLIN, SPEAKING BEFORE A STRONGLY SUP-
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 JOHANN 01721 051405Z

PORTIVE AUDIENCE, ALLOWED THE PRP WOULD NEGOTIATE

"DETAILS OF POLICY" BUT WOULD NEVER JOIN AN OPPOSITION GROUPING THAT DID NOT EMBRACE A "REPEAL OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION". MR EGLIN FURTHER STATED THAT HE HAS BEEN HOLDING INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS WITH OTHER OPPOSITION LEADERS ON A MEANS OF JOINING FORCES.

3. SENTIMENTS OF MANY DELEGATES, INCLUDING HELEN SUZMAN, SEEMED TO BE THAT THE UNITED PARTY WAS DISORGANIZED AND FALLING APART AND THAT PRP WOULD ULTIMATELY INHERIT THE LEADERSHIP OF ANY OPPOSITION ORGANIZATION. WHILE MR EGLIN'S RENUNCIATION OF ANY ALLIANCE THAT WAS NOT BASED ON A "REPEAL OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION" WAS WARMLY APPLAUDED, DELEGATES DID APPROVE A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN "ELECTORAL PACT" WITH ALL "PERSONS AND/OR ORGANIZATIONS OF VERLIGTE (ENLIGHTENED) OPINION", INDICATING THAT MOST DELEGATES WERE PREPARED TO ADOPT A MORE PRAGMATIC STANCE.

4. FINALLY, OF ADDITIONAL INTEREST, DR. MANAS BUTHELEZI, CHAIRMAN OF BLACK PARENTS ASSOCIATION, WAS INVITED TO ADDRESS THE CONGRESS, THE FIRST TIME (ACCORDING TO A PRP SOURCE) THAT A NON-ESTABLISHMENT BLACK HAD BEEN ASKED TO SPEAK BEFORE A MAJOR POLITICAL CONGRESS. HE MADE AN IMPASSIONED PLEA FOR AMNESTY FOR ALL BLACK DETAINEES AND SUPPORTED THE PRP CALL FOR A NATIONAL CONVENTION OF ALL RACES TO DISCUSS SA'S FUTURE. HE RECEIVED STANDING OVATION.

5. AIRGRAM WILL FOLLOW WITH TEXT OF ALL PARTY RESOLUTIONS AND NEWSPAPER ACCOUNTS.
JOHNSON

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, POLITICAL LEADERS, POLITICAL PARTIES, CIVIL DISORDERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 OCT 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976JOHANN01721
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760375-0812
From: JOHANNESBURG
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761082/aaaactbz.tel
Line Count: 97
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 AUG 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 AUG 2004 by barnescd>; APPROVED <14 DEC 2004 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRP CALLS FOR UNITED OPPOSITION SUMMARY: THE LEADER OF THE PROGRESSIVE REFORM PARTY, COLIN EGLIN, SPEAKING BEFORE THE FIRST
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, SF, (EGLIN, COLIN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006